

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, TW, SA

SUBJECT: ARABIAN AMERICAN OIL COMPANY REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON TAIWAN LABOR MARKET

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED FOLLOWING COMMERCIAL CABLE FROM J. V. KNIGHT, ARAMCO, WASHINGTON, D.C., SEPTEMBER 3:

BEGIN QUOTE:

ARABIAN AMERICAN OIL COMPANY MUST ADD OVER 1000 NON-AMERICAN NON-SAUDI EMPLOYEES TO REGULAR STAFF IN SAUDI ARABIA DUE TO RAPID EXPANSION OF OPERATIONS. TYPICAL PERSONNEL NEEDED ARE MEDICAL DOCTORS, NURSES, TYPISTS, PIPEFITTERS, ENGINEERS, MASONS, MACHINISTS, AUTO MECHANICS, WELDERS, AND DRAFTSMEN.

WOULD APPRECIATE IF YOU COULD RESEARCH LOCAL LABOR MARKET AND PROVIDE ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS FOR EACH CATEGORY LISTED ABOVE.

1. WHAT IS SUPPLY AVAILABILITY OF THESE SKILLS THAT ARAMCO MIGHT DRAW ON FOR EMPLOYMENT IN SAUDI ARABIA?

2. DOES LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTROL, RESTRICT OR LIMIT MOVEMENT OF SKILLED LABOR OUT OF COUNTRY? IF SO WHAT KINDS OF LABOR RESTRICTED AND TO WHAT DEGREE?

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3. WHAT ARE GENERAL WAGE LEVELS FOR VARIOUS SKILL CATEGORIES?

4. WILL THE SKILLED LABOR CATEGORIES AVAILABLE ALREADY KNOW
MINIMAL WORK ENGLISH?

WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE AN EARLY REPLY.
END QUOTE.

2. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY RESPONSE BASED ON INFORMATION JUST
RECEIVED FROM OFFICE OF MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AS INDICATED:

"IN RESPONSE YOUR CABLE, EMBASSY CONTACTED REPUBLIC OF CHINA
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, FOR ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS ON AVAILABILITY CERTAIN SKILLS ON LOCAL LABOR MARKET.
THE CHIEF OF THE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE AND LABOR MANAGEMENT
SECTION REPLIED THAT ALL CATEGORIES YOU HAVE LISTED ARE
RESTRICTED AND EXIT PERMITS ARE USUALLY NOT ISSUED IN SUCH
CASES. LABOR SHORTAGES EXIST LOCALLY IN ALL BUT NURSING CATEGORIES.
MOREOVER LOCAL OFFICIAL OPINED ENGLISH QUALIFIED
APPLICANTS WOULD IN ANY EVENT BE DIFFICULT TO FIND."

3. APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S PASSING ABOVE MESSAGE TO KNIGHT.
DEPARTMENT MAY ALSO WISH TO SUGGEST TO KNIGHT THAT IN VIEW
OF THRIVING ECONOMIC AND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN GROU
AND SAG THAT ARAMCO MAY FIND IT WORTHWHILE TO PURSUE QUESTION
FURTHER WITH ROC EMBASSY SAUDI ARABIA.
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